

# Castro's Subversion in the United States—Part I

## EXTENSION OF REMARKS

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Mr. HOSMER. Mr. Speaker, the American Security Council is one of the Nation's most respected private organizations dedicated to the preservation of the Nation and of freedom everywhere. Its weekly Washington Report invariably deals authoritatively with national and international developments affecting the Nation's security. The May 17 and 24 issues of this report detailed the pattern of Castro's subversion in the United States as written by DeWitt S. Copp, its able and authoritative managing editor. Part I of the two-part series is as follows:

### WASHINGTON REPORT: CASTRO'S SUBVERSION IN THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, May 17, 1965.—British historian and philosopher, Arnold Toynbee, before giving a lecture at the State Department on April 16, 1965, was quoted as saying: "It's hard to understand why you make such a fuss about Castro." And then comparing the United States and Cuba to an elephant and its fear of a mouse, he quipped, "It's great fun for the mouse."

Just a week prior to these comments, a CIA report on Cuban subversion was submitted to the House Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs (Selden committee). The report stated in part that "the Castro regime has in operation (since 1961) a highly professional espionage and subversion agency, the General Directorate of Intelligence (DGI). The DGI is advised by at least five Soviet intelligence specialists. Moreover, one of the purposes of the highly secret meetings of Latin American leaders in Havana last November was to give added impetus to more militant Communist activity in the hemisphere."

Castro's DGI is divided into three units, the largest of which masterminds the training, financing and promoting of subversion, and guerrilla warfare in Central and South American countries. Though the CIA report spelled out in detail the degree of the DGI's activities in these areas, it made no mention of its efforts in the United States. Our own investigation attempts in some measure to fill the gap.

### METHODS OF INFILTRATION

There are two known major points of entry by which covert Castro agents infiltrate the United States. One is by fishing boat to Puerto Rico, and then by illegally entering the United States with falsified documents. Congressman WILLIAM CRAMER, Republican of Florida, in testifying before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security as far back as 2 years ago said that "in excess of 1,000 people have come through this route into the United States as Puerto Rican citizens with falsified passports."

The other method of infiltration is by boat or plane to Mexico. There the Mexican Communist Party supplies the proper papers and the agent crosses the border at Laredo, Juarez, or Tijuana. Infiltrators from Cuba who enter the United States using either one of these routes, or via Canada, masking their identities by whatever manner, are trained agents whose assignments cover the Marxian spectrum of subversive activities.

### INDICATION OF ACTIVITIES

On the night of November 16, 1962, the FBI raided a workshop on West 27th Street in New York City. There they seized a secret cache of weapons and explosives, including delayed action incendiary bombs.

They also arrested three Castro agents and Roberto Santiesteban Casanova, a newly arrived attaché with the Cuban mission at the U.N. The other members of the Cuban mission, Jose Gomez Abad and his wife, Elisa, were named as fellow conspirators.

The purpose of the weapons and the explosives was for the sabotaging of defense installations and the demoralization of the civilian population. Attorney General Robert Kennedy said the plan was aimed at the heart of the internal security of the United States of America.

Four days later, Immigration officers in Brownsville, Tex., reported that Mexican authorities had prevented the blowing up of the International Bridge between Brownsville and Matamoros, Mexico. In doing so, they also nipped in the bud a sabotage plan to destroy major buildings in Matamoros. Two of those apprehended were Castro agents.

Since 1962, there have been several allied cases, one taking place in October 1964, in which a bomb was exploded in the Everglades Hotel in Miami, injuring a number of Cuban exiles attending a meeting.

Some months later, a Cuban terrorist threat to bomb the Roney Plaza Hotel in Miami intimidated the management into canceling a meeting of this same exile organization.

This threat came on the same day the bomb plot to blow up the Washington Monument, the Statue of Liberty, and the Liberty Bell was discovered.

On the surface, this latter episode appeared to be the wild act of a quartet of misguided idiots. But there is sound reason to believe that, wild as the attempt was, the four would-be saboteurs were acting under DGI instructions. Leader of the bomb plot, Robert S. Collier, had traveled illegally to Cuba in the summer of 1964. Upon his return, he formed, with a number of fellow Cuban travelers, a pro-Castro, pro-Perip group which called itself the Black Liberation Front. In December 1964 a United Nations party was given by the Cuban delegation in honor of its visiting guerrilla expert, Ernesto Che Guevara. At this party, Collier was introduced to Michelle Duclos, a member of an extremist separatist organization in Quebec. Later, the plotters bought the dynamite in Canada, and it was Miss Duclos who transported the explosives to New York in her car.

These five incidents fall under the heading of terror tactics. That only one of them met with any real degree of success speaks well for the FBI and our law-enforcement agencies. However, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, pointed out in testimony before the House Subcommittee on Appropriations last year that the efforts of the Castro regime to infiltrate intelligence agents into the United States "show that we (FBI) must maintain a broad coverage in this area of our operations."

How broad a coverage can be glimpsed by these additional incidents. In early 1963, a Castro agent was apprehended in a New York City apartment possessing a suitcase filled with visa applications and other documents which would aid fellow agents to gain illegal entry into the United States.

From Caracas, Venezuela, in February of this year came news of another type of smuggling operation, which again pointed toward the activities of U.S.-based Castro agents. By accident, on board the U.S. ship *Santa Rosa* were found 1,000 mail pouches filled with pro-Castro literature. The literature had been printed in and shipped from Miami, Fla.

Just as Puerto Rico has served as an important way station in Castro agents to enter the United States, it has also served as a transit point for still another sort of smuggling—that of narcotic drugs.

In December 1964, three Castro agents were arrested at Miami Airport—one of them a Cuban, Mario Canabarro Norey. They were engaged in drug traffic. How large the traffic

is can be measured by the fact that between January and November 1964, narcotics agents seized 897 pounds of drugs being smuggled into the U.S. from Cuba. This was an increase of over 450 pounds seized during the previous year. Included in this amount was heroin, shipped to Cuba from Red China.

In January 1965, a New York police inspector, Ira Bluth, was quoted as saying: "Marihuana used to come to New York almost entirely from Mexico, but recently large amounts of the drug have been discovered coming from Cuba."

On January 15, 1965, Oscar H. Reguera and Eldoro Martinez were taken into custody in a New York motel with \$3 million worth of cocaine in their luggage. Martinez is believed to be a Castro agent.

Aside from the obvious harmful effects addiction to these drugs creates, the major purpose behind the smuggling of narcotics into the United States by Castro agents is to raise money to finance an insurrection in Puerto Rico.

Castro's DGI is working in concert with Puerto Rican Communists and militant splinter factions of the Puerto Rican independence movement, accelerating their attacks against the social and governmental structure of the island. Since 1961, a number of Castro-supplied arms caches have been uncovered. Gun battles have been fought between the police and insurrectionists. Castro agents have infiltrated both exile and student groups, their purpose being to stimulate the kind of rioting which would require armed intervention. Should this happen, the cry for independence, which 97 percent of the Puerto Rican electorate rejected in the November 1964 elections, would take on a more critical meaning. This is so because the strategy of the movement is tied directly to the November 20, 1964, vote of the United Nations Committee on Anticolonialism. The Committee voted 17 to 6, in direct violation of a 1953 General Assembly ruling, to place the demand for Puerto Rican independence on the U.N. agenda.

This act played directly into the hands of Castro's DGI and Puerto Rican extremists—two of whom are presently members of the Cuban U.N. mission.

When the General Assembly convenes again, there is little doubt that agitation and propaganda will be stepped up in New York and San Juan, with the possibility of more violent actions erupting in Puerto Rico.

### SCOPE OF THE EFFORT

Recently, the Puerto Rican newspaper "El Mundo" estimated that since 1960, 12,000 Americans and Puerto Ricans have received subversive training in Cuba.

We cannot attest to the accuracy of the figures nor can we say how many of that number are under the orders of the Cuban Directorate of Intelligence. Although we do not have Castro-trained guerrillas operating in our country as a number of the Latin American countries presently do, we can say that intelligence and law enforcement agencies here and in Puerto Rico take the efforts of the DGI most seriously.

Of course, the publicly known cases outlined in this report can only give an indication of what is afoot. Hoary historians such as Toynbee may look down upon the world and view it from the vantage point of centuries. Unfortunately, we who have to live in the world from day to day and face its reality cannot afford cute analogies of mice and elephants with regard to Castro and ourselves.

In part II of "Castro's Subversion in the United States" we will show how Castro's American supporters, using the techniques of agitation and propaganda; by forming front groups; by infiltrating the civil rights movement, and by attacking our foreign policy, can best be termed the psychological warfare.